

people has been improved, that higher wages are paid the labouring classes, that progress is made on every side, and all this will more than counterbalance that increase of duty.

### Opposition Advocate Increased Taxes on Tobacco.

But my hon. friends opposite have saved us the trouble of meeting that charge. Only a few days ago they brought forward and voted for a resolution asking that the duty on tobacco be increased. After these hon. gentlemen had gone down into the fishing sections and denounced the government for its policy on the tobacco question, after they had denounced it for increasing the duty, we had the hon. member for Jacques Cartier (Mr. Monk) coming forward with a motion declaring that the protection we are giving Canadian tobacco is not large enough, and that the duty on foreign tobacco should be increased.

Mr. F. D. Monk.—This is the second time my hon. friend has misrepresented me. I advocated last year an expenditure for the sending of an expedition to the North Pole, and at the same time I advocated reducing the grant of \$1,000,000 for importing useless immigrants into this country, spreading disease and making competition to our working men. In the second place, I advocated a change of the duties upon tobacco. I advocated an increase of the custom duties and a reduction of the excise duties, which would simply change the nature of the burden and develop a patriotic industry. But developing a patriotic industry is something my hon. friend does not understand.

Mr. Fielding.—I do not know that my hon. friend is the embodiment of patriotism, or that he is so regarded by the hon. gentlemen with whom he associates. We need not, however, get into a discussion on that point. I am content to take his statement, that he was advocating an increase of the customs duties on tobacco.

Mr. Monk.—And a reduction of excise.

Mr. Fielding.—It is not the excise on Canadian tobacco that my hon. friends opposite have been denouncing in the maritime province, but the increased duty on foreign tobacco. And my hon. friend advocated an increase in that customs duty.

Mr. Monk.—And a reduction of the excise.

Mr. Fielding.—Exactly. But we are not discussing the excise. The excise duty is not discussed among our fishermen. When the hon. gentleman's friends go down by the sea and denounce the government on this tobacco question, what they complain of is the increase in the customs duty. It does not always help us to be able to show that we are building up a Canadian industry and that there is a better quality of Canadian tobacco now being produced. These hon. gentlemen opposite will not give us credit for that, but complain of our increase of the customs duties. We advise our people to use the Canadian tobacco, and I am glad to say they are using it largely, but many of them do not like it. The complaint of our opponents has been that we have increased the duty on the foreign article.

Mr. Monk.—I want the excise to be diminished, so that the Canadian article will be cheaper.

Mr. Fielding.—I am not objecting to any encouragement given the Canadian tobacco industry. That industry has received more encouragement under this

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